



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2022/2023

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE

ALT507: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Date:

Time:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

Section A: (Compulsory)

1. With the help of ample illustrations, examine how African American writers have used the genre of self-writing to reconstruct selfhood and victimhood. (20 marks)

Section B:

2. Using writers or artists of choice, discuss the salient features of the Harlem renaissance as an important epoch in African American literature. (20 marks)
3. African American women writing is characterised by a sense of urgency and agency. With reference to female authors of choice, validate the truth in this statement. (20 marks)
4. With reference to texts/writers of choice, evaluate the significance of the American dream as an important motif in African American literature. (20 marks)
5. Using ample illustrations from James Baldwin's works, discuss how the author uses writing as a tool to deconstruct religious white supremacy and discrimination. (20 marks)

